



# South Plainfield Observer

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OCTOBER 15, 2010

## Columbus Day Commemorated at 41st Annual Ceremony



Senator Barbara Buono, Congressman Leonard Lance and Lucy Hudson, president, South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club.

Plainfield's UNICO sponsored the 41st annual Columbus Day ceremony at Borough Hall on Monday. Master of Ceremonies was Frank Licato, past president UNICO National.

The ceremony began on the front lawn of borough hall with an invocation by Derryck White, a flag salute led by Michael Colucci and Robert Bengivenga, followed by the South Plainfield High School Band performing *The Star-Spangled Banner*.

Guests were then invited inside borough hall to hear keynote speaker, Congressman Leonard Lance. Also speaking were Senator Barbara Buono, Mayor Charles Butrico, Board of Education member Deborah Boyle and Renato Biribin, past president

UNICO National. Other honored guests were Councilmen Ray Rusnak and Robert Bengivenga, Jr.; Councilwoman Chrissy Buteas; South Plainfield Police Chief James Parker; Lucy Hudson, president of the South Plainfield Suburban Woman's Club; Walter Reuter, Exalted Ruler-South Plainfield Elks; Margaret Riccardi and Margaret Williams, North Plainfield Italian American Women's Organization.

The ceremonies concluded outside with the placing of a wreath next to the flag pole, followed by the singing of *God Bless America* led by the South Plainfield High School band while the Italian flag was hoisted.

Co-chairs for the event were Robert Bengivenga, Jr. and Deborah Boyle.

## Emergency Services Agencies To Host Public Safety Day

South Plainfield Emergency Services agencies will host Public Safety Day this Sunday, Oct. 17 in Veterans Park. Activities are planned to acquaint the public with local emergency services agencies. The annual event, formerly known as the fire department open house, will be held from noon until 4 p.m. and will include vehicle extrication demos and a fire smoke house trailer. Fifteen apparatus will be on

display and safety information will be distributed.

Agencies participating will include South Plainfield Fire Department, South Plainfield EMS, South Plainfield Police Department and South Plainfield Office of Emergency Management.

For more information, visit [www.southplainfieldfire.com](http://www.southplainfieldfire.com).



Cub Scouts from Pack 324 enjoy hiking at Winnebago Scout Reservation.

## Pack 324 Takes to the Woods For Fall Camping Trip

South Plainfield Cub Scout Pack 324 held its 2010 Fall Cubelos Camping Trip October 1-3 at the Winnebago Scout Reservation in Rockaway. Twenty-two cub scouts and family members camped for the weekend. The scouts participated in archery, BB guns, soap box derby cars, crafts, rock throwing at targets, field sports, rock wall, obstacle course, boating, whittling chip and a fishing derby.

Mother Nature cooperated over the weekend and no rain fell on the campers after it had rained most of the week. Fire Master Joe Scrudato and assistants Mike Lampasona and Jack Scrudato kept the flames at a high level all weekend. Many thanks to Mike Behr for bringing up a lot of firewood.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the hiking trip taken by Gary and Mike Lampasona, Mike and Mikey Behr, Ken, Connor and

Zack Wolpin, Joe and Jack Scrudato and Anthony Barge, who got lost for half the day. If it had not been for the great map reading by Gary Lampasona and Mike Behr, the group may have never found their way back to the campsite. Also, fellow Cub Scout Anthony Barge did a great job by looking for the correct tree blazes that helped get the lost hiking trip back to safety.

Additional highlights of the trip were the top chefs, Gary Lampasona, Gary Rohrer and Ken Wolpin, who cooked delicious food all weekend for the campers. The food has become the talk of the trip; even a Cub Scout pack from Branchburg pays to eat their food. Most scouts now want steak instead of pizza on Friday.

These camping trips have become so successful because of Cub Scout leaders Jacob Strassburger, (Continued on page 3)

## Library to Stay Put

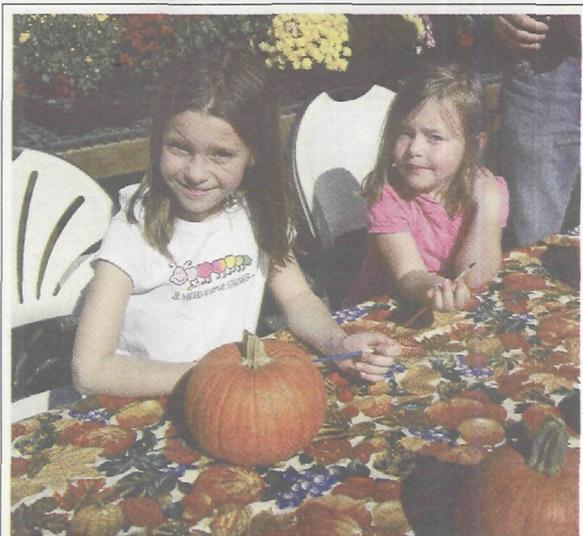
Full Report from Mayor At Next Council Meeting

By Libby Barsky

"The library will stay in the same place as it is now," Mayor Charles Butrico told the Library Board at its October 12 meeting.

After assessing the many possibilities—including whether to build or lease in various locations—the special committee headed by Mayor Butrico came to the conclusion that the best place for the library was to remain in the location it currently occupies.

While the library will remain within the borough complex, it will be in a new or rebuilt building that will triple the size of the present building. Plans (Continued on page 6)



Vanessa and Camila Fang attend the children's pumpkin painting event at Coppola's Garden Center last Saturday. Coppola's is offering the free event again this Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. See their ad on page 3 for details.

## Elementary Music Lessons Eliminated

Acting Superintendent Dr. Lorraine Cella recently announced that third grade students will no longer receive string instrument music lessons, and the district will no longer provide band lessons for fourth graders; however, each K-4 school will have its own full time music teacher for weekly class instruction.

The decision was made after Superintendent Jose Negron, who is currently on paid administrative leave, emphatically stated at the special September 3 Board of Education meeting that "if [lessons] has not been totally eliminated and we will provide as many lessons as possible." He left it

up to Cella to work out a flex schedule with the principals, which was supposed to have been completed within the first week of school.

According to a letter dated September 30 and addressed to elementary school parents and guardians, Cella explained that the decision included input from the music staff and principals. They worked "many hours examining schedules and discussing optimum learning opportunities for your child's music lessons without pulling them out of language arts and math."

Instrumental and band lessons will still be offered, commencing in

fifth grade, where Cella says, it is "a time when students are ripe for band instruction." All instrumental lessons in the remainder of borough schools will go on uninterrupted.

The cuts come on the heels of the loss of music teacher Joanne Gurske, who retired in June, and Cella blames "difficult economic times" for the program's demise. "With one less teacher, adjustments had to be made since Grant and the middle school

(Continued on page 6)



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# In My Opinion

Opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily those of the publisher, nor do we guarantee accuracy.

### To the Editor:

On behalf of the South Plainfield Field Hockey Association, I would like to thank all the businesses and families that contributed to our first t-shirt sponsorship fundraiser. The fundraiser was very successful and the girls love wearing their shirts. The Tiger Field Hockey families in town truly appreciate your bighearted donations, especially in this time of economic struggle when it is difficult to contribute to non-profit organizations.

Please show your appreciation to the following Tiger Hockey supporters: Neumann Sheet Metal Inc., Remtek Services, Preferred Steam Cleaning and Power Washing, South Plainfield Education Association, Pink SOCS Foundation, Butrico's Auto Body Inc., Insurance Restoration Specialist Inc., A-Tech Landscape Design Inc., Oak Tree Wines and Spirits, Chrissy Buteas and family, Wendy's, B&C Deli, The DeSantis Family, Sportworld, Front Street Farmers Market, Hometown Heros, Direct Cabinet Sales, the Observer, ProCare Physical Therapy, Heart the Art, The McLean Family, Sherban's Diner, Twin City Pharmacy and Surgical, Dr. Frank P.

Licato Jr. Family Dentistry, BII Inc., B&B Landscaping, Mr. Subs and The Butrico Family.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers who help our field hockey program in so many ways, from the parents, to the girls who donate their time, and especially to our newest parent volunteer, Beth Abbott. This is a great organization and I am proud to be a part of it.

**GAYLE BUTRICO, PUBLIC RELATIONS, SOUTH PLAINFIELD FIELD HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**

### To the Editor:

This past Saturday, the Plainfields' Chapter of UNICO National, in conjunction with its Italian language class, held a very successful celebration marking the 40th anniversary of Plainfields' Chapter at the South Plainfield Senior Citizens Center. More than 180 people attended and were entertained by renowned tenor Nino Rossano.

Much of the success was due in large part to the volunteer efforts of so many people in the Italian community and friends of UNICO, who graciously supplied homemade food, including many Italian specialties and

desserts. It would be impossible to name all those who helped make this a very memorable evening; however, to all of you who participated in any way, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Truly, the warmth and enthusiasm that filled the room was a reward and an incentive to have more such community fundraisers.

**THANK YOU, ELAINE BIRIBIN AND ROBERT BENVINGA, CO-CHAIRPERSONS**

### Dear Editor,

I guess I should be flattered. Over the last eight weeks the Republican candidates and their surrogates have lambasted me full time in the paper and fliers. They are clearly running scared. They are not scared of Mike English per se. They are scared that I and my running mates, Jeff Williams and John Sorrentino, are giving the voters the straight, honest facts concerning the Republicans terrible record as members of the borough council. Despite the attacks, we are not changing our campaign approach. We are committed to honestly stating the facts and letting the voters decide. Here they are:

1. Expenses: The borough budget is 400% higher today than when I left office. The amount raised by taxes went up \$1M this year alone—that's a fact.
2. Taxes: Since Matt Anesh, Tim McConville and Ray Rusnak were first elected four years ago, municipal taxes have increased 25%—that's a fact.
3. Borrowing: It has become normal practice to pay for current expenses by borrowing the money. In this year's budget, \$1.5M was borrowed to offset current expenses. We will be paying that off for the next 10 years—that's a fact.
4. Fees: The Republicans have raised every fee imaginable including the sewer tax again this year—that's a fact.
5. Services: The Republicans have totally neglected our roads and parks. They have ignored our seniors. When Joann Graf left as senior director, they tacked that responsibility on to the recreation director, who is doing the best he can, but we need a full time director. No one can replace Joann, but we all know she'd help train and work with a successor—that's a fact.
6. Salaries: Nothing personal, but no one working in borough hall should make as much as the governor. It's time that favoritism ends once and for all—that's a fact.

Harry Truman said, "When my political opponents stop spreading lies about my record, I'll stop telling the truth about theirs."

Jeff, John and I encourage all residents to look at the straight, honest facts and we are confident you will support the team of English, Williams and Sorrentino.

**MIKE ENGLISH**

### Dear Editor,

It's reassuring that someone as qualified as Matt Anesh is running for mayor. Matt is a vice president of a Fortune 100 company and has experience in both management and finance. Given his background, South Plainfield would do well to have him as our mayor.

Matt's business experience has already served our town well in his position as council president. He and his team did an excellent job on the budget this year (taxes are down and spending is less than two years ago). They also worked hard for our town when voters defeated the school board's budget in April. Matt helped lead the team that worked with the town's professionals, and they brought the budget down from a large increase to no increase (without any cuts that would hurt the children). Actually, they even suggested ways to bring back things the school board had cut.

Matt's done a superb job on the council, and he would be an even better mayor. I hope everyone will join me in voting for Matt Anesh on November 2.

**CHRISTINE FAUSTINI**

### Dear Editor,

Election Day is a time when we are optimistic that things will get better. Well, this year, we have an opportunity to elect a man of tremendous character, integrity and a work ethic second to none. This year, we need to elect John Sorrentino to the Borough Council.

I've known John for many years. I know that he is devoted to his wife Maryann and his three children, Joe, Angela and Anthony, as well as his son-in-law Jay and daughter-in-law Stacy. John has worked extremely hard to be a good provider for his family and I know that he will exhibit that same work ethic as a borough councilman. I believe you can tell a lot about a man by how hard he works and by how well he treats his family and friends. That's why I know wholeheartedly that John Sorrentino is the best candidate for borough council.

Join me in electing a man of tremendous character, integrity and work ethic. Please join me in electing John Sorrentino, Democrat for borough council, as well as his running mates,

### Submit Your Letters to the Editor:

Send your letters to South Plainfield Observer, 1110 Hamilton Blvd., Suite 1B, South Plainfield, NJ 07080, or fax to 908-668-8819, or via email: spobsobserver@comcast.net. **Deadline is Monday, 5 p.m.** Letters must be accompanied by a name and telephone number for verification. Limit letters to no more than 200 words. We reserve the right to refuse a letter, to edit for clarity or length, and to limit the number of letters submitted on the same subject. Submission is not a guarantee of publication. We do not accept anonymous letters. Letters are strictly opinion.

Michael English for mayor and Jeff Williams for council.

**DANIEL UGARTE**

### To the Editor:

I am writing this letter to support Ray Rusnak who is running for a second term on the Borough Council.

I have known Ray for some time. He is smart, a professional and a true gentleman. He is the model councilman because of the way he listens to people, works with others, and always tries to do the right thing.

More importantly, Ray (along with Council President Matt Anesh) has brought a financial background to the council that was sorely lacking. This year, for the first time, taxes actually dropped. That tax cut came about in no small measure due to the hard work put into the budget by Ray, Matt and CFO/Administrator Glenn Cullen. The budget is actually lower this year than it was two years ago!

Sound financial planning is so important in an age of big-spending politicians who pander to every group imaginable. Rather than use gimmicks, the GOP council majority streamlined departments, cut positions through attrition, refinanced debt to take advantage of an improved bond rating and used competition to bring down costs. They also renegotiated the contract with our public works employees, a move that brings down starting salaries by 30%. These savings will help control taxes not only this year, but over the next decade.

Ray Rusnak and his running mates, Matt Anesh and Tim McConville, have done an excellent job on the council, and they deserve our support in November. They will definitely have my support this November.

**MARGE REEDY**

Want to stay informed about the business of your Council and BOE?

**FYI** Borough Council

Council meetings air on Comcast Channel 96 Mondays at 7 p.m. BOE meetings air on Thursdays at 7 p.m.

To purchase a complete copy of a council or BOE meeting, contact the Observer.

(Check Comcast community bulletin board for last minute time changes.)

### council meetings

Meets twice a month on Mondays, \*except where noted.

Borough Hall Council Chambers • Questions? 908-226-7605

Agenda Meeting ..... Public Meeting

October 18 ..... October 18

November 8 ..... November 8

All Agenda Meetings begin at 7 p.m. followed immediately by the Public Meeting, unless otherwise noted. Meetings of the Governing Body are held in accordance with the N.J. Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.) in the Council Chambers at 2480 Plainfield Ave.

### planning board

Meets second and fourth Tuesday of the month, \*except where noted.

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641

Oct 26, Nov. 9 Dec. 7.

### zoning board of adjustment

Meets second and fourth Thursday of the month, \*except where noted.

Borough Hall Council Chambers, 7 p.m. Questions? 908-226-7641

Oct. 28, Nov. 11\*, Dec. 9\*

**South Plainfield Observer**

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Submit letters to the editor by mail, email or fax. Letters should not exceed 200 words. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or length. Letters must include name and phone number, for verification.

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Knights and family members at Somerset Patriots Ballpark.

## Knights of Columbus Fundraiser at Patriots Ballpark

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus recently ran the concession stand for the fifth time this year at the Somerset Patriots Ballpark on September 18. Between 24 and 40 Knights of Columbus members, their wives and family members, as well as Columbian Squires, ran the first and third base concession stands during each game.

All proceeds collected from the games go towards the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Catholic High School and College Scholarship Fund. These scholarships are given out each year to members' children and grandchildren who graduate from eighth

grade and plan to attend a Catholic high school and to a graduating high school senior continuing his or her education in college.

Over \$6,000 has been collected this year from this fundraiser.

The Knights would like to thank the men who worked in the kitchen during the hot summer months: Ed Koznowicz Sr. (head chef), Harold Bolton, Mike Butrico and Jeff Pauls (Mr. Fryer). The Knights would also like to thank two non members of the Knights, Chrissy Buteas and Gary Rohrer, who helped the organization with their support at numerous games this year.

## NEWS

### Suburban Woman's Club

The Suburban Woman's Club of South Plainfield hosted a husband/guest night at the American Legion on Oak Tree Avenue with entertainment provided by Fred Quinn of Cranford. Quinn took his audience on "A Walk Down Memory Lane" with stories, music and memorabilia of the 30s, 40s and 50s. He is the president of the Garden State Storytellers and the Eastern District of the National Storytellers.

Among the guests who attended was Ann Ribinsky Brown, college district vice president, who brought greetings to the club.

Members and guests enjoyed a covered dish supper prepared by club members. President Lucy Hudson conducted a short meeting calling on chairpersons to report on fundraisers.

The G&G-Boutique/Yard Sale held October 2 was a great success.



Frank Quinn

A theater party will take place on Sunday, Nov. 14 at the Edison Valley Playhouse. A light musical entitled, "A New Brain," will be performed. Refreshments will be prepared by members during the play's intermission.

Members will be attending the College District Fall Conference on October 18 at the Bridgewater Marriott.

Any woman interested in joining the club is invited to call (732) 549-9633 for membership information.

## Meet the Candidates October 21

The *Observer* and the South Plainfield Business Association are co-sponsoring a Meet the Candidates Night on Thursday, Oct. 21 at the Senior Center beginning at 7 p.m.

The four candidates for Borough Council are Republican incumbents Tim McConville and Ray Rusnak and Democrats John Sorrentino and Jeff Williams, who are both running for the first time. Also debating with them will be mayoral candidates, Republican Matt Anesh and Democrat Mike English. The debate will be divided into two parts—council candidates and mayoral candidates.

As in the past, questions may be submitted by members of the audience that evening. If anyone would like to submit a question ahead of time, email them to the *Observer* at spobserver@comcast.net. The candidates will not be privy to any questions before the night of the debate and it will be up to the moderator as to which questions will be asked and in what order. Candidates will alternate answering questions, and time for rebuttal will be allowed.

This will be the only opportunity prior to Election Day that both parties will meet to debate the issues and set the record straight on their positions.

The public is invited to attend and encouraged to submit questions.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 2.

## Pack 324 Takes to The Woods for Fall Camping Trip

(Continued from page 1) Eileen Cary, Ken Wolpin and Gary Rohrer. They planned a great weekend and the scouts had a great time being out in nature and hanging out with their friends.

The scouts who attended were Max Strassburger, AJ Johnson, Colin Carey, Brady Farrell, Rayden Clapp, Zack Wolpin, Max Rohrer, Connor Wolpin, Jack Scudato, Michael Behr, Anthony Barge, Sebastian Rohrer, Daniel Roth, Bryan Raber, Mitchel Kowalski, Nick Smiljanic, Colin Farrell, Justin Cavaliere and Ryan Carey, as well as siblings who attended, Owen Kowalski, Autumn Barge and Sam Strassburger.

A great time was had by all and everyone looks forward to the next trip in November.



Plainfields' UNICO recently celebrated its 40th anniversary with a dinner and show with famed tenor Nino Rossano at the South Plainfield Senior Center. Pictured (L-R): Plainfields' UNICO Founder Renato Biribin, charter members Tom La Marca and Frank Licato, National President Chris DiMattio, First Lady Ann DiMattio, Plainfields' President Anthony Bengivenga and Immediate Past President Robert Bengivenga.

## SPHS Music Boosters

### MUSIC NOTES



Congratulations to the South Plainfield High School Marching Band which competed on October 9 at Hillsborough High School at the U.S. Scholastic Band Association Marching Band Competition. The Tigers took second place with a score of 77.925 in Group III-A. They also received the award for Best Visual in that group.

Please join us for the 29th annual South Plainfield Marching Band Festival-U.S. Scholastic Band Association Competition on Saturday, Oct. 16 at 4:55 p.m. at the Frank R. Jost Memorial Field by the PAL.

The Music Boosters has been working overtime to get things done for this band competition. For 29 years the SPHS Marching Band and the Boosters of the Musical Arts have been hosting the event. All proceeds are given as scholarships to graduating seniors who have participated in any of the musical arts programs at SPHS.

The following high school marching bands will be competing on Saturday: Metuchen, Glen Ridge, Cranford, Linden, New Providence, Scotch Plains-Fanwood, Bayonne, Weehawken, Manville, John F. Kennedy, Colonia and Oceanside. South Plainfield High School will perform in exception.

Starting time is 4:55 p.m., with the SPHS Choir singing the *National Anthem*. The first marching band steps off at 5 p.m. Come and enjoy a night

of good food and some of New Jersey's finest high school marching bands. Cost of admission is \$9 for adults, \$7 for children and seniors. Please come and show your support!

-Submitted by Donna Teller

## ALERT

### BOE Meeting Date Change

The Board of Education Regular Public Meeting scheduled for Monday, Oct. 18 has been changed to Wednesday, Oct. 27 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the gymnasium of the Roosevelt Administration Building, 125 Jackson Ave.

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(Ages 6 to 12. Must be accompanied by parent or guardian.)

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www.CoppolasGardenCenter.com

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# Events

## Knights Mum Sale

Weekends through October 24

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Council #6203 annual fall mum sale continues weekends through October 24. High quality mums in various colors are on sale at the rescue squad, 2506 Plainfield Ave. \$7 for eight-inch pots and \$25 for huge pots.

This fundraiser supports the Knights various charitable works.

## Sacred Heart Food Fest Italiano

October 15

Sacred Heart Church "Food Fest Italiano" will be held in the school cafeteria on Friday, Oct. 15. There will be one seating at 6 p.m. for a taste of Italy. Limited number of tickets; no tickets will be sold at door.

For tickets, call or stop by the parish center, (908) 756-0633, ext. 110 or 111.

## Cub Scout Pack 324 Spaghetti Dinner

October 15

Cub Scout Pack 324 is hosting a spaghetti dinner at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Hamilton Boulevard on Friday, Oct. 15 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Cost: Adults/\$7; children under 12/\$5.

## USSBA Marching Band Competition

October 16

South Plainfield High School 29th Annual Marching Band Festival USSBA Competition will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16 beginning at 5 p.m. at Frank Jost Memorial Field, Cady Lane. Tickets: \$9 adults/\$7 students/senior citizens. Over 10 local high school bands and color guards will compete.

Send Your Events to: [spobserver@comcast.net](mailto:spobserver@comcast.net)

For information on how to submit your event, visit our website at [www.spobserver.com](http://www.spobserver.com).

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## Humane Society Annual Tricky Tray

October 16

Plainfield Area Humane Society's second annual tricky tray auction will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 5 to 10 p.m. at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. Admission: \$10. Refreshments, bake sale plus complimentary tea, coffee, soda and water.

## Columbiettes Fall Fashion Show

October 16

The South Plainfield Columbiettes will host their annual fall fashion show and tea on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 334 Hamilton Blvd. Admission is \$10. Fashions, courtesy of Dress Barn in South Plainfield, will be modeled by members and friends.

For tickets or information, call Nancy at (908) 561-5917, Emma at (732) 287-2346 or Kathy at (908) 756-3772.

## Oktoberfest at St. Stephen's Church

October 16

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 3145 Park Ave. will hold its 13th annual Oktoberfest German dinner on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. All-you-can-eat pork roast and gravy, sauerkraut, red cabbage, green beans, applesauce, mashed potatoes, rolls, beverages and dessert. Cost: Adults/\$11; seniors/\$8; children 5-12/\$5; under five are free (hot dogs available for children). Take out dinners will be available. All proceeds go to charity.

For more information, call (908) 757-4474.

## Scrapbooking at Wesley Methodist

October 16

Creative Memories' annual Cropoberfest Scrapbooking Workshop will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16 at Wesley Methodist Church, 1500 Plainfield Ave. from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Beginners and experienced scrapbookers are welcome. Workshop fee: \$25.

includes prizes, snacks and a hot lunch.

For more information, call Dayel Giammarino at (908) 754 4255 or Michelle Biggs at (908) 754 5791.

## Polish Night at The Elks Club

October 16

The South Plainfield Elks will be hosting "Polish Night" on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 4 to 7 p.m. Cost: \$12 per person. Authentic Polish food including homemade pierogis, stuffed cabbage, kielbasi, babka and more. Coffee, tea and soda included. Proceeds will benefit Elks charities. Tickets will be sold at the door.

For more information, call Debbie Czech at (732) 491-5310.

## Tricky Tray at St. Stephen Church

October 23

St. Stephen Orthodox Church, 609 Lane Ave., is holding its annual tricky tray on Saturday, Oct. 23. Admission: \$8 per person. Doors open 6 p.m.; calling starts 7:30 p.m. Refreshments available for purchase. Super raffle, 42" LCD HDTV, Sony 14.0 megapixel camera, 8GB iPod Touch, mystery prize, door prizes, 50/50 raffle. Home décor, kitchen appliances, jewelry, electronics and much more.

For tickets or more information, call Sonia at (908) 806-7776 or call (908) 756-0410.

## Knights Benefit Concert for Autism

October 23

An evening with Billy and Rose Falcon will be held on Saturday, Oct. 23 at 8 p.m. at the South Plainfield Knights of Columbus Hall located at 334 Hamilton Blvd. Tickets are \$20 each. Proceeds benefit Autism New Jersey.

To purchase tickets, call Brian Cargill at (908) 755-9717.

## Tiger Sharks Dive Team Fundraiser

October 24

Spooky Vendor Day, a fundraiser to benefit the South Plainfield Tiger

Sharks Dive Team, will be held on Sunday, Oct. 24 at the PAL building, 1250 Maple Ave. Dunk Mayor Charles Butrico, Councilpersons Chrissy Butteas and Rob Bengivenga into the dunk tank. Cash prize costume contest, face painting, balloon animals, carnival attractions, moon bounce, sand art, business and community vendors; food and more. Admission: \$3 donation per person; children under 5 are free.

For more information or to donate, call Jill at (732) 423-7727 or email [jill@youreventsolutionsllc.com](mailto:jill@youreventsolutionsllc.com).

## Knights of Columbus Halloween Party

October 31

The South Plainfield Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes will host their annual Halloween party on Sunday, Oct. 31 at 6 p.m. at the Knights hall, 334 Hamilton Boulevard.

There will be food, games and prizes. The event is open to all. Admission is free.

## — Out of Town —

## Male Revue Fundraiser

October 15

The Ladies Auxiliary of the New Market Volunteer Fire Department, 801 S. Washington Ave. in Piscataway, will sponsor a male revue on Friday, Oct. 15 at 8 p.m. Doors open 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 at the door. BYOB.

For information, call (732) 752-1329 or Rose at (732) 752-2644.

## St. Thomas Aquinas 30th Reunion

October 16

St. Thomas Aquinas High School Class of 1980 will hold its 30th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. at Red Bank Elks, 40 West Front St. in Red Bank. Cost: \$55 per person.

For more information, email [annmarieferrante@yahoo.com](mailto:annmarieferrante@yahoo.com).

## Wardlaw-Hartridge Annual Fall Fair

October 16

The Wardlaw-Hartridge Parents' Association will host the annual Fall Fair at 295 Inman Ave. in Edison on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event is free.

Vendors, 50/50 and tricky tray. Antique appraisals offered for \$5 per

## SENIOR CENTER Calendar

### Coming Up.....

October 21 Trip to Ballys  
Nov 14 State Theatre: In the Mood, Big Band Music, \$35, noon  
(Call the center for more info)

### MONDAYS

Silver Sneakers ..... 8:45 am  
Crocheting ..... 9:30-11:30 am  
Yoga ..... 10:30 am  
Art Class ..... 11:30 am

### TUESDAYS

Bingo ..... 10 am-2 pm  
Ladies Group ..... 10 am

### WEDNESDAYS

Aerobics ..... 8:45 am  
Line Dancing ..... 10 am  
Computer... 10 am, 11:30 am, 1 pm  
Crocheting ..... 1 pm  
Tai Chi ..... 2 pm

### THURSDAYS

Active Seniors ..... 8:45 am  
Shopping Trip ..... 9 am  
Crafts Class ..... 10 am  
Computer ..... 10 am, 11:30 am, 1:30 pm  
Exercise Class ..... 1:15 pm

### FRIDAYS

Bingo ..... 10 am-2 pm

Daily Activities: Morning coffee, pool, cards, board games, computer classes, exercise, art, Tai Chi, yoga and crafts.  
Lunch Served Monday-Friday.

Call (908) 754-1047 for more info or visit [www.southplainfieldnj.com](http://www.southplainfieldnj.com)

Senior Center is open daily 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays & Sundays.

item. Home-baked goods available.  
For more information, please call (908) 754-1882.

## Woodbridge WOWs Open Dance

October 17

Woodbridge Widows Or Widowers will hold an open dance on Sunday, Oct. 17 from 7 to 11 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Morrissey Ave. in Avenel. Light refreshments. All are welcome. Admission: \$10 members; \$12 guests.

For more information, call (732) 381-3255 or (908) 757-0515.

## Triple C Ranch Paint Your Own Pumpkin

October 17

Edison Wetlands Association (EWA) will be hosting a free autumn pumpkin painting on Sunday, Oct. 17 from noon to 2 p.m. at the Triple

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**Tricky Tray**  
Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>

St. Stephen's Orthodox Church Hall  
609 Lane Avenue, So. Plainfield, NJ

Admission: \$8 per person

Something for Everyone! Home Decor! Kitchen Appliances! Jewelry! Electronics! And much, much more!

Refreshments available for purchase

Doors open at 6 PM \* Calling starts at 7:30 PM  
For tickets or information, call (908) 756 - 0410

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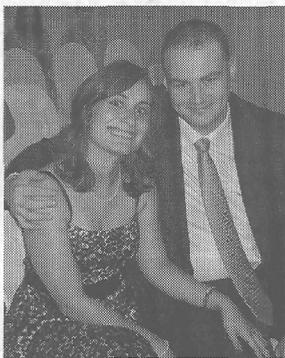
Milestones

**Cristina E. Sa and Andrew Babajko III Engaged**

Antonio and Aurora Sa of South Plainfield proudly announce the engagement of their daughter, Cristina E. Sa, to Andrew Babajko III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Dimesa of Tottenville, Staten Island, N.Y. and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Babajko Jr. of Long Island, N.Y.

The bride-to-be is a 2005 South Plainfield High School graduate and currently is attending the College of Staten Island pursuing a bachelor's degree in elementary education with plans to graduate in 2013.

The groom-to-be is a 2004 Tottenville High School graduate and is



Christina Sa and Andrew Babajko III

currently a police officer with the New York City Police Department assigned to the 67th Precinct.

The couple is planning to wed on June 1, 2012.

**Auralis Flores Wins Hairstyling Contest at The Salon Professional Academy**

Auralis Flores of Edison, a student at The Salon Professional Academy in South Plainfield, was one of only five winners in a nationwide contest sponsored by APS, LLC and Redken 5th Avenue, the NYC-based beauty products division of international beauty conglomerate L'Oréal (Paris).

This innovative training program and promotion, designed to help celebrate Redken's 50th anniversary in the beauty products industry, was focused on segments of the history of hair styling in America (the 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s and 2000s).

Entitled "Beauty Through Science," the goal was to teach today's beauty students how changes in hair-styles and cosmetics over those time periods resulted in tremendous improvement in products, as well as change and growth for the salon industry.

Students were encouraged to focus on a particular "decade," to study the styling, product chemistry and

product offerings of that period, then to create a "new" style to match their selected decade and enter it in the contest with other students from all over the country.

Auralis, along with her educator Jamie Wilcox, won a four day/three night round trip to Los Angeles, and a visit to Warner Studios. Additionally, they received a class from award winning hair stylist Linda Arnold to get a comprehensive view of special effects for high definition television and high definition hair and make up, and the opportunity to meet Redken's founder, former actress Paula Kent Meehan.

The Salon Professional Academy is an innovative training center and the only beauty school endorsed by Redken for excellence in education. Students receive a superior education delivered by trained educators who empower them to explore their creativity while learning the latest techniques in a leading edge NYC style facility.

**Tom McCreesh Inducted in DeSales University Hall of Fame**

The DeSales University athletic department inducted five new members to the hall of fame, including Tom McCreesh from the Class of 1985, at a ceremony held on September 24 in the DeSales University Center.

Inductees will join the 25 current members and two other teams who were recognized in previous years

McCreesh was a four-year starter on the baseball team. He served as the team captain during his senior year and earned most valuable player honors twice. He was named the male athlete of the year in 1983 and was a three-time first-team all-district outfielder during his career. He had a free agent tryout with the Pittsburgh Pirates and St. Louis Cardinals following graduation.

McCreesh graduated with a bachelor of science degree in business management and began working for Dunphy Smith Company, where he is currently the vice president.

In addition to working for Dunphy Smith Company, he served as the vice president of the South Plainfield Junior Baseball Club for three



Tom McCreesh

years, has been a member of the South Plainfield Recreation Commission since 2001, was elected in 2005 to the South Plainfield High School Hall of Fame and won the New Jersey State PGA Father/Son Golf Tournament with his son Danny in 2009.

One of McCreesh's proudest accomplishments is founding Coaches Offering Assistance for Children's Health (C.O.A.C.H.es Care), which assists sick children, and has raised more than \$275,000 since 2000. The char-

(Continued on page 7)

C Ranch located in the heart of the Dismal Swamp Conservation Area, 206 Tyler Rd. in Edison.

For more information, call Dana Patterson at (732) 321-1300.

**Lecture on Jewish Culture at Rutgers**

October 21

Kenneth B. Moss will deliver a talk about the unlikely Jewish cultural renaissance in the midst of war and revolutionary upheaval in the Russian empire on Thursday, Oct. 21, at 7:30 p.m. in Traves Hall at the Douglass Campus Center, 100 George St. in New Brunswick. The program is free and open to the public. Advance registration is requested.

To RSVP, email csjtsvp@rci.rutgers.edu or call (732) 932-2033.

**Monmouth Symphony Presents Ode to Joy**

October 24

The Monmouth Symphony Orchestra will present a classical music concert, *Ode to Joy*, conducted by Roy Gussman on Sunday, Oct. 24 at 3 p.m. at the Count Basic Theatre, 99 Monmouth St. in Red Bank. A preconcert talk will be presented in the theatre at 2:15 p.m. Ticket prices are adults \$35, seniors \$30 and students \$5.

For tickets, call (732) 842-9000.

**Annual Fall Fundraising Dinner**

October 23

St. Francis' Episcopal Church, 400 New Market Rd. in Dunellen is hosting its annual fall fundraising dinner on Saturday, Oct. 23. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; dinner at 6 p.m. Cost: \$20/adults; \$10/children under 12.

For more information, call (732) 968-6781 or (732) 752-5608.

**Blood Drive at Deutscher Club**

October 23

Deutscher Club, 787 Featherbed Ln. in Clark will hold a blood drive on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. A \$15 gas card will be offered to all donors.

Healthy donors at least 16 years of age (must be accompanied by parent/guardian) can register in advance. Picture ID required.

For more information call the blood center at 1-800-652-5663, ext. 140.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
LEGAL NOTICE

An appeal has been filed by Bhalodi Girish requesting a variance from the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance of the Borough of South Plainfield to permit construction of 16x24 deck. Proposed deck requires 20' rear yard setback; 17' proposed; and other variances that may be required, said property being located at 608 Spicer Avenue, Block 367, Lot 2.06 on the South Plainfield Tax Map.

For the purposes of hearing objections to or protests against the granting of said appeal, the South Plainfield Zoning Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 28, 2010 in the Council Chambers, Borough Hall, 2490 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey at 7:00 p.m.

The files and documents pertaining to this appeal are available for public inspection in the Planning/Zoning Office in Borough Hall between the hours of 8:00 a.m and 4:00 p.m.

\$38.50

October 15, 2010

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**Sacred Heart Church**

149 South Plainfield Ave.  
South Plainfield, NJ

Rev. John Paul Alvarado, Pastor

**Mass Schedule:**

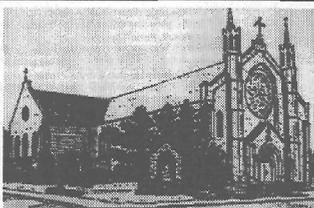
Saturday Mass 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00, 11:30 a.m.

Daily 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday  
7:00 p.m. Monday (Church), Thursday (Parish Center Chapel)

Holy Days 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation—Saturday 10-11:30 a.m. and at other times by appointment



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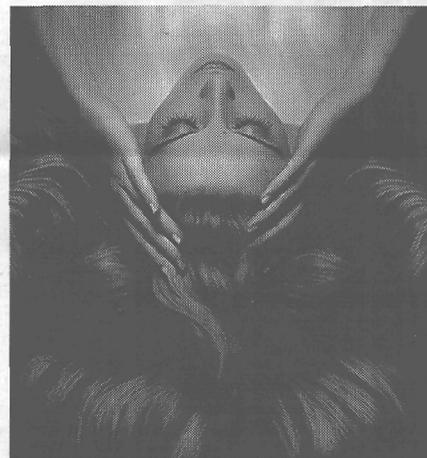
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5TH AVENUE NYC

# Cory Kline 2010 Memorial Golf Tournament



First place group: Joe Glowacki, Mookie Kurilew, Guy Severini and Tim Fech

**To the Editor:**

On September 29 the inaugural Cory Kline Golf Tournament was held at Rutgers Golf Course. The response was great, with 124 golfers taking part. Along with family and friends, there were over 150 people attending. The weather was perfect and the day could not have been any better except if Cory could have been there. We know that he had a lot to do with the weather as it had rained the two days prior and the two days after, but on Wednesday it was 75 degrees and sunny.



Linda and I are writing this letter to express our gratitude to everyone who participated and helped to make this special day a huge success. We had individuals come from Florida, and a fraternity brother from California made the trip. Fraternity brothers from Pennsylvania, Georgia, New York and New Jersey came as well. Members of the South Plainfield and Piscataway police departments were there. Our good friends from town, our family and Cory's friends rounded out a great day.

We want to thank the guys at the Bagel Pantry for supplying the morning bagels, PBA #100 for all the support that they gave us and a special thanks to Det. Gary Cassio, Chief Jim Parker and retired Det. Jim Darby for the extra effort that they gave to this event. We want to thank the *Observer* for placing the article about the tournament in the paper, and Donna Capparelli Hanley, who supplied us with a banner and trophies.

If we were to list everyone who we wished to thank, this letter would spill into next week's *Observer*, so you get the idea that we cannot say enough about everyone's involvement and how it has affected us. Because of their efforts we were able to give Nicole, Elizabeth and Jaxon a check for \$11,200.

Thanks again for everything. Linda and I are truly blessed to have a family and friends like you.

GARY & LINDA KLINE

A Great Big Thanks to All Who Helped

## Riley Students Display Art for the Main Office

The Art for the Main Office tradition at John E. Riley School continues for the 2010/2011 school year. Periodically, Barbara Harris, Riley School's art teacher, selects the artwork of four students to frame and display in the main office of the school.

This latest group of young third grade artists includes Sergey Prokofiev, Kaylee Basantes-Llerena, Samuel Nieves and Puja Vengadasalam.

The artwork is a non-objective neon paper collage which emphasizes the "Elements of Art" and the "Principles of Design."



Pictured with their artwork are (L-R): Sergey, Kaylee, Samuel and Puja.

## policereport

- On September 29 Victor Polanco-Pena, 50, of Plainfield was arrested for failure to inspect and an outstanding warrant.

- Darren D. Daniels, 42, of Plainfield was arrested at CVS on Plainfield Avenue for shoplifting assorted soap and deodorant worth \$64.

- On October 1 John E. Worsdale, 56, of Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated, no insurance and failure to exhibit an insurance card.

- On October 2 a West Avenue resident reported that the driver's side window of their vehicle had been smashed.

- On October 3 Phillip G. Bloedorn, 44, of Edison was arrested for driving while intoxicated, speeding, reckless driving and failure to keep right.

- On October 4 Benjamin J. Mayhue, 33, of North Plainfield was arrested for driving while intoxicated.

- A Piscataway resident reported that the driver's side key lock of their vehicle had been broken while parked at Pathmark. No entry was gained.

- Denholtz Associates of Matawan reported a rock had been thrown through the window of their overhead door at 902 Oak Tree Ave.

- On October 5 a Clark Lane resident reported the driver's side door handle of their vehicle had been broken off.

## Music Lessons Eliminated

(Continued from page 1)

and high school master schedules were set prior to attempting to set the elementary music lessons schedules," said Cella. "Our goals are to provide the best possible education in all areas of the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and we will continue to offer exemplary experiences in music while meeting our language arts literacy and math goals." After 37 years of teaching, Gurske's salary upon leaving was \$87,470 annually.

Riley music teacher Tobie Baldwin also cites funding as the "underlying issue" for the cuts. "If the town had passed the budget, or if the state had reinstated some of the funds that were cut, we probably wouldn't have had to face any cuts," said Baldwin.

BOE and Curriculum Committee

member Debbie Boyle commented, "I do not support the cut of third grade music lessons. In my opinion there could have been a resolution, but the principals and music teachers decided mutually to discontinue the program so that students were not pulled from core classes."

Cella added, "If the BOE decides that third grade lessons are a priority for next year, we can reinstate them by creating teaching schedules across the schools to allow for third grade lessons."

Parents who rented or purchased instruments and do not wish to participate or whose child is no longer eligible to participate will have their money refunded. Having difficulty receiving a refund? Contact Cella at (908) 754-4620 ext. 292.

## Library to Stay Put

(Continued from page 1)

include either rebuilding the library on the same site or new construction around the existing structure. The committee still needs to make a final decision based on cost.

"There will be no property issues; we are not crossing the property line," Butrico said. "We own the property up to the rescue squad. In fact the whole complex is listed as the municipal library complex."

The decision to stay in place came

about when the committee began questioning whether it was possible to remain. "The assumption was we couldn't build in the same location. But we had the borough engineer look into it and found the site is located in a flood plain where you can build. You can't build if the site is in a flood zone," said Butrico.

Mayor Butrico will give a full report on the future of the library at the October 18 council meeting at Borough Hall.

## McCreech Inducted in DeSales University Hall of Fame

(Continued from page 5)

ity hosted a 12-hour softball tournament for three years before transitioning to a golf tournament in 2004. The tournament has been sold out in its first seven years and has become a popular event in the community. For the last four years, the charity has focused on children

with brain tumors.

This fall there are plans to open up the C.O.A.C.Hes Care Therapeutic Learning Center at the JFK Medical Center in Edison. The organization partnered with the hospital on a vision to provide an environment to help in the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of children with

brain tumors. On September 30, the organization was honored by the hospital with the Joseph N. Masci Philanthropic Award.

McCreech lives in South Plainfield with wife Laura, also a 1985 graduate of DeSales University, and son and daughter, Danny and Alyssa.

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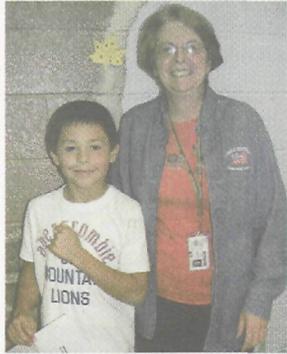
Mayor & Borough Council  
**DEBATE**

Thursday, October 21, 7 p.m., Senior Center

Sponsored by South Plainfield Observer & South Plainfield Business Association

2010-2011  
**JUNIOR JOURNALIST**

**Marrerro Named Junior Journalist**



Junior Journalist winner Michael Marrero with teacher Cynthia Severino.

Michael Marrero, Kennedy School fourth grader, is the first winner in the 2010-2011 Junior Journalist program. His poem, "Fall," has earned him dinner for his family, courtesy of Hometown Heros.

Students should submit their original written works to their teachers, Hometown Heros on Hamilton Blvd. or to the *Observer* at 1110 Hamilton Blvd.

Winners and their families will receive a catered dinner from Hometown Heros and will be honored at a year-end banquet in May of 2011. Winners also have the opportunity to win the Ruth Kurland Memorial \$1,000 U.S. Saving Bond.

For more information, call the *Observer* at (908) 668-0010.

**Fall**

By Michael Marrero

Fall leaves coming down.  
Red, green, yellow and brown.  
When my brother is raking,  
I smell my mom cookie baking.  
Halloween is on the way,  
I want it to be everyday.

From the South Plainfield Library

**Bookmarks**

By Kenneth Morgan

It's starting to look like autumn out there. The leaves are turning, the air's getting a bit cool, Halloween decorations are up, and the stores are about a month into their Christmas sales. But, no matter the time of year, there's always something going on at the South Plainfield Library.

Following the post-summer break, our children's programs are up and running again. For those who have forgotten (that was a pretty long break, after all), here's the schedule: Storytime, for children ages four and over, will be held on Tuesday morning at 10:30, Wednesday evening at 6:30 and Thursday afternoon at 1:15. Time for 2's & 3's, for children ages two and three, will be held on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 10:30. And Babytime, for children ages two and under, will be held on Friday morning at 10:30. Each program lasts about an hour and features stories, songs and a craft activity for older kids. They're all presented free; no pre-registration is required.

We've got some special children's programs on the schedule this month.

- Tomorrow (October 16), we'll have our annual pumpkin painting program from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. There's no fee involved and no pre-registration. We'll provide all of the craft materials. Bring your own pumpkin.

- On Monday, Oct. 18 we'll have a Halloween Kidcraft program at 6:30 p.m. Participants will make a Halloween door decoration. The program is for children ages three and over; space is limited, pre-registration is required. There's a \$1 materials fee, payable upon registration.

- On Monday, Oct. 25, we'll present a children's magic show, "Hal-

loween Tricks," featuring Joe Fischer. The program starts at 6:30 p.m. and will be held at the Senior Center, 90 Maple Ave. It's for children ages four and over; no pre-registration required. In lieu of an admission charge, participants should bring non-perishable food items for the Middlesex County Community Food Drive.

For more information about children's programs, call and ask for Miss Linda.

We've got space this week for a couple of reminders. We are still accepting donations of books and A/V items in good condition. If you have a large amount of items to pass along, please call us in advance so we'll be expecting you. Please bring them in a few at a time; this will give us time to go through them and find a spot in our seriously cramped storage space for them. Don't forget that on weekdays from 2:30-6 p.m., young people between the ages of 12 and 18 must either be accompanied by an adult or have both a library card and a photo I.D. in order to use the library.

Finally, Election Day is less than a month away, and we are ready to help you in your effort to be a more informed voter. (Those voters wishing to be less informed are advised to reconsider.) We have access, both via hard copy and our computers, to a wide variety of publications outlining the candidates and their respective views. We can also provide you with contact information for them so you may ask them any questions directly. Stop by and take advantage of these resources before you cast your ballot. (Once you're in the booth, though, you're on your own; we can't do everything for you.)

If you'd like more information, call us at (908) 754-7885 or visit [www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us](http://www.southplainfield.lib.nj.us).

**Franklin Hosts Back to School BBQ**

By Patricia Abbott

Franklin School held the annual Franklin Family BBQ on September 24. The event brought close to 500 students and family members together for an evening of friendship, food and fun. About 17 staff members and their families also joined in the celebration.

The PTO organized and sponsored the popular event. PTO President Sue Aleksandrowicz and PTO Vice President Karen Pear chaired the picnic. The BBQ is paid for by the funds raised by the PTO. Admission is free, but each family was requested to bring a dessert. It was catered by Sodexo employees who kept the hamburgers and hot dogs coming throughout the evening.

"This was one of our biggest turnouts yet with close to 500 in attendance. A good time was had by all," said Aleksandrowicz. They were especially happy to have a turnout 25% larger than last year.

Some guests brought extra special confections in an effort to win the second annual homemade dessert contest. The top three winners were awarded a pumpkin jar filled with munchkins and candy corn. The winners were The Dudak Family, The O'Shaughnessy Family and The Gredzinski Family.

In addition to the food, there were plenty of activities for the kids, including face painting provided by Franklin mom Latasha Johnson and her mother, a wacky egg race, hula hoop contest, potato sack races, a bubble gum biggest bubble contest and kick ball. For the older set not quite up for kick ball, a 50/50 raffle was held. Claire Mosier, Franklin duty aide and crossing guard, sold tickets throughout the evening.

Franklin School Principal Ellen Decker-Lorys was kept busy greeting students and parents. "The annual



back to school BBQ was well attended and enjoyed by all. I appreciate all of the hard work that was put into making it a success," said Decker-Lorys.

"The best part of the barbecue is seeing the kids having a blast running around, playing games and just having fun with their friends and family," said Pear.

This year the school opted to add a fundraiser to the festivities. On the lawn just a short distance from the

ongoing activities, Nancy Smith, Franklin School secretary, organized the sale of fall mums. She was assisted by Principal Ellen Decker-Lorys and first grade teacher Louise Mruz.

The organizers would like to credit the approximately 20 or so people who helped with the set up after school, during the barbecue, during the games, face painting and the clean up after the barbecue.

Franklin can boast another successful event that brought families and students together for the new school year.



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# Sports



Good protection by the Eagles allows #47 Alkeim Raines (left) to throw a pass. #36 Xavier Santos (above right) carries the ball and gains yardage despite tight coverage by the Rams.

## Eagles Football and Cheer Play Under the Lights

The South Plainfield Eagles Football and Cheer played its third home game against the Somerville Rams on October 9.

**Flag (5-7 year olds)**—The five-year-old team played like pros. Mark Molinaro, Zach Bolesta and Jacob Dunn kept Somerville under control by pulling lots of flags throughout the game. Steven Zultowski scored the only touchdown for this team. Al Fuschetti and Michael Mendez both had key plays on both offense and defense, with Michael showing continuing success in the QB position.

On the six-year-old team, Jalen Russell and Zaire Spears each had two touchdowns apiece. Chris Poggio also scored a touchdown. Bryce Hollis, Zach Esporin, Bradley Young and Julian Irizarry all had 20-yard runs. Mike Kurilew's impressive blocking skills opened the way for several great running plays. The defense was very aggressive, only giving up one touchdown by the Rams. The team did a great job pulling flags, with extra ef-

orts by Andrew Van Herk, John Carlo, Sean Passarelli, Rohan Gupta, Brian Sosa and Jacob Leonard.

The seven-year-old flag team had an exciting game. Johnny Padovano grabbed seven flags; Anthony Nigro grabbed four flags. Colin Carey and Michael Darling both had flag pulls at critical points in the game. Myles Cheatham and Cody Adams each had 25-plus yard runs. Josh Liberato pulled a flag at the goal line preventing a touchdown by the Rams. Mitchell Dudak had a 20-yard run that scored the game winning touchdown at the end of the game. The seven year old team defeated Somerville, 1-0.

**Mighty Mite (7-9 year olds)**—The Mighty Mite team had an exciting game against the Rams, with several fourth down conversions. Joe Sacco had a seven-yard touchdown run in the first quarter starting the game off. Sam Nieves took charge with a key tackle resulting in a loss of two yards for Somerville. Thomas Fiero also had a defensive tackle resulting in a three-

yard loss. Jordan Hamberg started the second quarter off with an interception, followed by an 11-yard carry. Sam Nieves broke through the defense with an 11-yard carry. Finally in the third quarter, Joe Sacco brought the crowd to their feet with a 50-yard touchdown run. The MM team finished with a tie against Somerville, 12-12.

**Junior Pee Wee (9-11 year olds)**—Joe Nardacci had a fumble recovery early in the third quarter. Jalil Palms sacked the Rams QB for a 10-yard loss. Zahveae Thorne had a great run for a gain of 25 yards. The Eagles dominated the second half allowing Somerville only one offensive series and scoring with a safety. Anthony Barge had a strong defensive game. Alkeim Raines and Zahveae Thorn had big gains out of the back field.

**Pee Wee (10-12 year olds)**—The Pee Wee boys took a few plays from Coach Bryan Scipio's high school and college football playbook for this match up against Somerville under the lights on a chilly fall night at Kenneth field. Bryan (Buzz) Scipio Jr. debuted in the shotgun with Mike Soto under center for the first time. The Eagles went to the sky early and often with Buzz putting the ball in the right spot time after time. The feisty Somerville defenders made the receivers work throughout the night with William McLaughlin's diving grab and Josh Siegenthaler's 60 yarder being noteworthy receptions. The running game benefited from the spread for-

(Continued on page 10)

By Gary Lampasona

## JUNIOR BASEBALL CLUB NOTES



Registration for the Spring 2011 season will be held at the clubhouse on Friday, Oct. 15 from 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration is open for all children ages seven and up by April 30, 2011. If your child is new to the program, please bring a copy of their birth certificate. The registration fee is \$95 for the season, and will increase by \$20 after December 31. Make your checks payable to SPJBC.

If you cannot make it to the club-

house, you can download the forms directly from our website, [www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc](http://www.leaguelineup.com/spjbc), and mail them to SPJBC, P.O. Box 66, South Plainfield, N.J. 07080. Early signups help the executive board better prepare for the season by making league decisions so everyone can have a more enjoyable experience.

If you still have questions, call the clubhouse at (908) 754-2090. Hope to see you this weekend.

SPHS FIELD HOCKEY

By Pat DeSantis



## Field Hockey Corner

The SPHS Girls Field Hockey team is heading into the last few weeks of the season with a record of 11-2.

There are two home games this week: Monday against South Brunswick and Wednesday against Monroe.

This Friday, the Tigers begin play in the GMCs on their home turf field.

Come and support our Lady Tigers.

Saturday's wine tasting fundraiser, organized by the Field Hockey Association, was a great success. Thank you to the organizers and attendees for your ongoing support.

## Recreation Wrestling Sign Ups

The South Plainfield Recreation Department will be holding wrestling sign ups on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the PAL Building on Maple Avenue. Registration is open to all South Plainfield children ages

five to 11 (as of October 1). Registration is \$40. Birth certificate and proof of residency is required for first time registrants.

Practice begins on Monday, Nov. 15.

## SPHS Girls Volleyball Play Game In Support of Breast Cancer Research

The South Plainfield High School Girls Volleyball Team will be hosting a home game versus Parsippany Hills High School on Friday, Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. in which they will be supporting the Susan G. Komen Foundation in fighting breast cancer.

The team has sold t-shirts and will

be collecting donations as well as selling food and breast cancer awareness items at the game. Also, they are inviting everyone in town who is free on Friday to come out and support the team and its effort to raise breast cancer awareness.

—Submitted by Coach John Ferguson

## Central Jersey Hawks Holding Spring Tryouts

The Central Jersey Hawks, a U13 eighth grade basketball team based in Ocean Township, are holding tryouts for the Spring 2011 team on Saturday, Oct. 23, 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Ocean Township Municipal Gym, 1100 West Park Ave. in Ocean Twp.

Girls from Monmouth, Ocean,

Middlesex and Somerset counties have played for this team in the past. There is no fee to attend and all talented, dedicated eighth grade girls are encouraged to vie for a spot on the team.

Candidates are encouraged to pre-register. Email Coach DaveDeFillippo at [davedefillippo@aol.com](mailto:davedefillippo@aol.com).

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# Sports

## SOCCER CLUB

By Dawn Hutchison

### Sign Up for Soccer Camp

Another great weekend for soccer this past weekend and all of our teams are playing great, looking forward to the same this coming weekend.

Looking for something for your kids to do over the upcoming break for teacher's convention? Tired of them sitting in front of the video games? The SPSC together with the South Plainfield Recreation Department have joined forces once again with Spencer Rockman and the Rovers Soccer program to bring the Teachers Convention Soccer Camp, November 4 and 5. This two day program of fun, skills and drills runs both days from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Memorial Turf Field at the PAL, rain or shine. Cost is \$49 per person for the two days. Camp is open to boys and girls, ages five through 14. Players will be divided into groups according to age. Children will be required to bring cleats and shin guards. Food, drinks and snacks will be available for purchase. For more information, please



contact Dawn Farinella at (908) 769-6959 or email dawnfarinella@comcast.net. We look forward to seeing some new faces, as well as our club members, to take part in the camp this year.

Thanks to all those who came out and supported our teams at last week's home games. This week's games are as follows:

- U-8 Warriors-Saturday, Oct. 16 at 11:30 a.m. at Kenneth Field #2.
- U-12 Arsenal-Sunday, Oct. 17 at noon at Kenneth Field #1.
- U-11 Wanderers-Sunday, Oct. 17 at 2 p.m. at Kenneth Field #1.
- U-13 Thunder-Sunday, Oct. 17 at 4 p.m. at Kenneth Field #1.
- U-12 Ambush-Sunday, Oct. 17 at 1:30 p.m. at Memorial Field.
- U-14 Storm-Sunday, Oct. 17 at 3:30 p.m. at Memorial Field.

Come on out and catch a game—from our U-8s to our U-14s, there is some really great soccer happening here at the SPSC!

## U-10 ECLIPSE By Kathleen Smith

### Eclipse Dominates Ridge in 7-0 Victory

By Kathleen Smith

Team Eclipse dominated Ridge in a 7-0 victory last Sunday.

Jillian Holobowski broke with the first goal in the first half. Goals were scored throughout the game by Alexis Curtis, Victoria Meono, Linda Farinella and Jillian Holobowski. Excellent goal tending by both Mackenzie O'Brien and Cameron Marks held Ridge scoreless. Olivia Leonardis, Kristyn Smith and Samantha Pullen helped to keep Ridge away from the goal. Catherine Delair, Kaitlyn Smith and Gianna Sacco in mid field continued to feed the ball to the offense throughout the game.

Team Eclipse is Alexis Curtis, Victoria Meono, Gianna Sacco, Kaitlyn Smith, Linda Farinella, Catherine Delair, Samantha Pullen, Olivia Leonardis, Kristyn Smith, Cameron Marks, Jillian Holobowski and Mackenzie O'Brien.

The girls next game is away versus Livingston on Sunday, Oct. 17.

## U-11 ARSENAL

By Mark Resende

### Arsenal Rebound From Loss With Dominating Win

On yet another absolutely beautiful Sunday in Central Jersey, the South Plainfield Soccer Club U-11 Boys team, Arsenal, finally got to play its first home game of the season at Memorial Field and they would not disappoint their fans.

The outcome of the game was never really in doubt, as Arsenal controlled play from the opening kickoff enroute to a 4-1 thrashing of the Piscataway Pythons. Arsenal would strike first in the eighth minute. A shot by Jason Cieszkiewicz was saved by the Python goalie, but the ball came loose and Jason Belanger was there to pounce on it and put it in the net. Despite constant pressure by Arsenal, that would be their only goal of the first half.

Arsenal again came out strong to start the second half and did not relent. Their second goal came in the 40th minute when Cristian Butrico took control of the ball on the right sideline and deftly passed it to Jake

Hoffman, who then brought the ball up field and crossed it into the box. His pass found Caleb Kuberick in front, and Caleb found the back of the net for a 2-0 lead. But Hoffman and his Arsenal team were not done yet. The third goal for Arsenal would come in the 55th minute and again be set up by Hoffman with a crisp pass from the right side of the box, but this time it was Jake Smith driving it home with a one-time shot for his first career goal.

The only lapse for Arsenal came in the 59th minute when they allowed a Python breakaway that led to their only score, but that would not slow down Arsenal on this day. In the 65th minute, midfielder Jared Marks sent a long ball up field that was picked up by Hoffman. After already registering two assists and several shots on goal, Hoffman finally scored one of his own to give his team the 4-1 lead that would prove to be the final tally.

This was easily Arsenal's best game

of the season to date, with tremendous passing, communication and teamwork on display. Every player contributed in this game, including Mason Resende, Tyler Curtis and Alec Paez on defense. Nick Plate spent the first three-fourths of the game in goal before getting some time at forward. Rjcky Pellegrino, Dylan O'Connor and Jack Cochran rotated between the midfield and forward positions.

Arsenal's next game will also be a home affair. Kickoff is scheduled for noon on Sunday, Oct. 17 at the soccer complex on Kenneth Avenue against the Wizards of Watchung Hills. Arsenal, coached by David Cieszkiewicz, Greg Hoffman and Steve Belanger, will be looking to improve upon their current record of 3-1, so please come out and support the team. Go Arsenal!

## U-9 SHARKS

By Nicole Plate

### U-9 Sharks Devour Westfield

On a beautiful Sunday afternoon, the U-9 Sharks won their first game against the Westfield Hibernians by a score of 6-0. With Nick Smiljanic and Nick Aehortua splitting their time in goal, Westfield could not get the ball past them.

The first goal for the Sharks was scored in the first two minutes of the game by Ashwin DeGroot. Ashwin then scored his second goal about two minutes afterward, putting the Sharks ahead 2-0 going into the second quarter.

Great team work helped Justin Plate to score in the second quarter. The third quarter brought more passing which led to Ashwin scoring two more goals in the game.

The great defense of Cooper Smith, Gabe Mont, Sebastian Hughes and Samir Daoud helped keep the Hibernians from getting the ball past mid-field.

The offense for the Sharks consisted of Tav Baldasarre, Sebastian Cordoba, Bryan Cruz and Kevin Veliz, who did a wonderful job passing the ball. The Sharks were aggressive and communicated well with each other.

The final goal of the game came off the foot of Justin, his second of the game. The Sharks really played hard to get their first victory of the season. The parents and coaches are so proud of the Sharks.

The Sharks next game is away in Flemington on Sunday. Go Sharks!

# Obituaries

## Jules A. Blutfield, 92

Jules A. Blutfield died on Tuesday, Oct. 5 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.



Jules A. Blutfield

Born in Bronx, N.Y. Jules was a resident of South Plainfield since 1949.

Serving overseas during WWII, Jules met and married his wife Claudine (Miho) in 1945. He was honorably discharged from the United States Army in 1945 and received numerous awards and medals, the Good Conduct Medal, WWII Victory Medal and European-African-Middle Eastern Service Medal. Throughout his life, Jules was active in various military organizations and attended the 50th anniversary of D-Day, handing out medals to veterans who did not receive them during their war time.

He worked as a salesman for Cudahy Co. located in New York.

Jules was an honorable, passionate and loving man who was endlessly devoted to his family and friends. He will be remembered and missed by all those who knew him.

Jules is survived by his wife, Claudine; three children, Carole Golcher (Tom) of Ewing, Daniel Blutfield of Old Bridge and Joel Blutfield (Vicki) of Tiscan, Ariz; five grandchildren; and a brother, Bernard Blutfield.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

## James J. Mechler, 82

James J. Mechler died on Saturday, Oct. 2 at the Earl B. Hadlow Center in Jacksonville, Fla.

Born and raised in the Bronx, N.Y., James moved to Dunellen in 1968,

and two years ago moved to Orange Park, Fla.

Mr. Mechler worked in sales during his entire career. He served with the Navy during WWII and was a member of the Middlesex American Legion Post 306 and South Plainfield American Legion Post 243.

He is predeceased by his wife, Letitia Mechler and by a sister, Dorothea Zach.

Surviving are six children, Lee Anne Leo and husband Ed Semicky of South Plainfield, Pamela Lucas and husband Steve of Washington, D.C., Patricia Rievuto and husband Thomas of Ft. Myers, Fla., Thomas Mechler and wife Kathleen of South Plainfield, John Mechler and wife Kathleen of Pt. Pleasant, Robert Mechler and wife Margaret of Orange Park, Fla.; a sister, Evelyn Mechler of Bronx, N.Y.; 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

## Lucy (Gustin) Yednak, 87

Lucy (Gustin) Yednak died on Saturday, Oct. 9 at JFK Medical Center in Edison.

Born in New York City, Lucy was raised in New Brunswick and settled in Metuchen in 1950.

She worked for the former Squibb Corp. in North Brunswick followed by Westinghouse in Edison before becoming a homemaker.

Surviving is her husband, Michael; three daughters, Barbara Lublancecki and husband Walter of Long Valley, Carolyn Serilli and husband Art of North Brunswick and Jane Camilletti and husband Robert of Midland, Mich. Also surviving are five grandchildren, Jennifer McGuigan, Michael Lublancecki and Robert, Megan and Stephen Camilletti.

Funeral services were held at McCriskin-Gustafson Home For Funerals.

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# Eagles Football

(Continued from page 8)  
 mation as Ben Lundy and Ryan Marston bulled their way through the middle, Dominic Labruzzo rambled around the ends and DeMarquis Price slithered through the line to include a 30+ yard run off the tackle.

Sam Nieves, #8, gains

The teams coaches want to acknowledge the boys in the trenches who fought play after play either on the O-line protecting the backfield or clawing and scrapping to corral the quick Somerville runners: Joe Penyak, Noah Chainey, Dheer Patel, Ed Kobilis, Josh Ward, Irvin Arevalo, Anouar Faida, Danny O'Shaughnessy and Mike McCormick. These boys, over half of which are first year players, have developed into solid football players and are successful despite the recognizable difference in size and speed of the competitors. The lone score for the Eagles came from a Bryan Scipio one-yard run on the heels of the Sigenthaler pass reception. Family members, as well as members of the Middlesex Vikings who joined the boys on the sidelines, thoroughly enjoyed the exciting offensive display put on by the PW team.

It was a gorgeous afternoon for football and cheer, and the two older teams greatly enjoyed playing under the lights. Stay tuned next week for the results of the Mountain Valley Conference Cheer Competition to be held at Bridgewater Middle School on October 16. Go Eagles!

-Submitted by Terry Housel

## From the Republicans

### Why Are Dems Taking Campaign Money From Developer Proposing 700 Apartments?

Republican campaign spokesman Rob Bengivenga this week called upon Democrats to explain why they took a campaign contribution from the developer that proposed 700 apartments for New Brunswick Avenue.

According to election filings, the Democrat campaign took a donation in June from Harris Realty, the same developer who wants to build 700 rental apartments on property owned by Harris Steel.

"I urge Democrat candidates Williams and Sorrentino to reconsider the wisdom of taking that donation," said Bengivenga.

Council President Matt Anesh, who's running for mayor, said the topic is especially timely because last week an appeals court overturned low income housing regulations enacted by the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) and ordered it to come up with new regulations within five months. In the meantime, Governor Christie is pushing legislation to eliminate COAH, the agency that sets low income housing quotas for towns like South Plainfield.

"The state senate has passed a bill, and the assembly is supposed to be looking at the issue this week," Anesh added. "By refusing to sign the contract with the developer, we gave our town some breathing room while all this goes on."

"If we had listened to the Democrats in December and had signed a contract with the developer, there would have been

no stopping that project," said Councilman Tim McConville, who is seeking re-election.

According to McConville, he's disappointed that Democrats have taken a campaign donation from the developer, and he is calling upon Williams and Sorrentino to return the money.

Councilman Ray Rusnak was also disappointed by news of the contribution: "First Sorrentino and Williams said nothing while their party fought us when we wanted to say 'no' to the apartments, and now we see they are taking campaign money from the developer. It demonstrates a pattern of poor decision making."

Republicans also pointed to the Tingley Rubber site as another multi-unit project for which the Democrats bear responsibility. "We told them back in 2004 it was a bad idea, but they didn't listen. Now we're looking at about 300 multi-family units going on that site."

"Just imagine what would happen if we had another 500 to 1,000 kids in our schools," said Anesh. "If Republicans had not fought the apartments back in December, that's what we'd be looking at between the two projects."

"We know the developer for the 700-unit apartment complex will be back," added McConville. "Matt, Ray and I are committed to fighting that project, and if re-elected we will do everything in our power to stop it. We can't surrender South Plainfield's small-town atmosphere."

The opinions expressed here are solely those of the organizations that submitted the articles. They do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the publisher, nor do we attest to their accuracy.



Submit your questions to the candidates for Mayor and Borough Council at the Candidates' Debate • October 21, 7 p.m. • Senior Center

## From the Democrats

### Democrats Are Committed to Recreation Facilities, Programs

The Democratic Team of Mike English, Jeff Williams and John Sorrentino want to continue the tradition of providing South Plainfield youth with the finest recreational facilities they can possibly have. With that in mind the team is committed to putting a new addition on the PAL recreation building. The present gym was built in the early 60s and no longer accommodates the needs and wants of residents of our town. During the winter months our youth basketball program has hundreds of kids participating, ranging in age from seven to 18. We don't have enough room in our schools to accommodate all the kids for practice and games. During these months the gym is closed off to the pick-up games that have been the mainstay in the lives of generations of boys and girls in our town. Mike, Jeff and John are committed to building this addition without using borough funds. They want to investigate available public grants and private donations to make this improvement a reality.

Each member of the Democratic Team has years of experience volunteering with youth programs. John Sorrentino has thrilled kids and their parents for 15 years with his involvement on the Public Celebrations Committee. This was his eighth year as chairman of the parade. As his children were growing up John volunteered his time coaching in Ponytail, Little League and Pop Warner Football. Currently, John voluntarily runs a clubhouse for thousands of kids at the Jersey Shore during the summer.

Jeff Williams experienced the value of sports at South Plainfield High School where he was named the most valuable player and won the Group III Championship in varsity track and field. He also excelled in sports at High Point University. Jeff currently serves as a youth minister at the Upper Room Full Gospel church. His involvement with boys and girls include

Bible classes, youth outreach programs and youth mentoring programs.

Mike English's involvement in voluntary youth activities goes back over 30 years. He started coaching his nephews in little league in the 70s. As his sons got involved he coached them in little league, basketball and traveling soccer. During the 80s, Mike ran the South Plainfield Summer Invitational Youth Baseball Tournaments which grew to include over 130 teams from New Jersey and New York. He also served as the voluntary athletic director for Sacred Heart School and CYO Director for the Diocese of Metuchen during these years. Mike has served as a soccer coach, a swimming coach and a lacrosse coach on the varsity level at several high schools. One of his greatest personal achievements was coaching his sons at the same time on the South Plainfield High School Soccer Team. Throughout most of his adult life Mike has been a member of the South Plainfield Athletic Booster Club.

As recreation director for South Plainfield, Mike was instrumental in getting grant funds to do major improvements to most of the athletic fields used by the boys and girls of our town. Lights were installed at the soccer fields, football field, little league fields and the Ponytail field. He oversaw the design and construction of the addition to the PAL and new buildings at the soccer fields, Pop Warner football and the classrooms in the Highland Avenue Woods. Mike's commitment to recreational facilities in town goes back to the early 80s when he was vital in securing county approvals and the Army Corps of Engineers acceptance of the redesign and construction of Spring Lake Park.

The Democratic Team of Mike English, Jeff Williams and John Sorrentino want to continue the great tradition of service to the youth of South Plainfield. For more information visit the SPDems website.

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